

GOWD News You Can Use



February 15, 2011

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Governor Robert Bentley's Priority: Job Creation

Congratulations to Dr. Robert Bentley who took the oath of office as Governor of Alabama last month. In his inaugural address, the Governor sent a clear message that job creation is a priority in his administration: "... **our state's mission from today forward is creating jobs for Alabamians**" whether through new industry recruitment or assistance to existing businesses.

Governor Bentley also broadened the scope of responsibility for job creation through **Executive Order 2** directing all state departments, commissions, and agencies to include job creation as part of their goals and objectives. This means skills training and education are more important than ever to develop a workforce prepared to step into these jobs.

The Governor's Office of Workforce Development applauds Governor Bentley's job creation mandate and wholeheartedly concurs that jobs are the key to Alabama's economic recovery. This Office pledges continued collaboration with state- and grassroots-level organizations to provide a workforce system that is efficient, effective and responsive to the current and future needs of business and industry, and to the citizens of Alabama.

Dr. Matthew Hughes

Important Dates:

- WDCA Region 10 Chat with the Chancellor is **February 22, 2011** in Dothan.
- IWTP grant deadline is **February 28, 2011**.
- State Workforce Planning Council (SWPC) will tentatively meet **March 2, 2011**.

DOL and Education Announce CCCTP Grant Solicitation

Secretary of Labor Hilda Solis and Secretary of Education Arne Duncan announced the release of the long-awaited Solicitation for Grant Applications (SGA) for the **Community College and Career Training Program (CCCTP)**.

DOL will award \$500 million to community colleges and other eligible entities for three-year grants ranging in size from \$2.5 to \$5 million for individual applications and \$2.5 to

\$20 million for consortium applications. **The deadline for grant applications is April 21, 2011.**

The SGA is available on [the Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration website](#) and is also on the [grants.gov](#) website.

SGA places a premium on grant applications that emphasize innovation and reform rather than simple capacity expansion. SGA also emphasizes the development and use of

evidence-based learning materials, including shared courses and open resources that would be available online for free.

DOL will post a prerecorded webinar at its [workforce3one website](#) at 1:00 p.m. ET on Jan. 24. Also check the [AACC website](#) in the coming days for further developments, guidance and analysis of this vitally important funding opportunity.

Inside this issue:

Chat with the Chancellor Meetings	2
Career Ready Alabama	2
WDCA Region 6 Officers	3
Hanceville Career Center	3
ABCs of GOWD	3
WDCA Meeting Dates	4
Oil Spill Collaboration	4

Chat with the Chancellor Meetings

More than 80 representatives of business and industry, chambers of commerce, economic developers, career centers, and community college personnel were present for the first Chat with the Chancellor, held January 26th at Wallace State Community College in Hanceville, hosted by WDCA Region 2.

The audience spoke with the Chancellor about their views of the college system, how the system can better meet the

needs of the community and local businesses as well as preparing the region for the jobs of the future.

The next Chat with the Chancellor will be hosted by WDCA Region 10 on February 22, 2011. The meeting will be held on the campus of Wallace Community College in Dothan at Rane Hall in Wheelless Auditorium. The business meeting will begin at 1:00 PM with the chat following at 1:45 PM.



Career Ready Alabama



Sarah Horton gave two WorkKeys presentations at the 2011 Career Development Conference held January 28th. The confer-

ence targets high school counselors, career tech staff and others needing to implement WorkKeys in their schools and classrooms. Information was presented on WorkKeys, KeyTrain and Career Readiness Certificates.

An information session for WorkKeys Solutions Providers

(WSPs) was provided February 3rd. Janet Ormond with Chattahoochee Valley Community College and Dave Rodgers with Shelton State Community College shared best practices and strategies for marketing WorkKeys services to business and industry.



WDCA Region 6 Officers

Chuck Smith is the chair for Region 6. He began his career with Gulf States Paper in 1971, where he held a range of positions of increasing responsibility. After 25 years of service with Gulf States, Chuck became an employee of Rock-Tenn Inc. when they purchased Gulf States Paper in June 2005. During this transition, he assumed the duties of Human Resources Director and proudly continues to serve in that role. Chuck is heavily involved in municipal, civic, and charitable work on a local, regional, and state-wide basis.

Wayne Vardaman is vice chair for Region 6. After serving in private industry for 23 years, he was named Executive Director of the Selma & Dallas County Economic Development Authority in 2002. Later that year he was appointed President and CEO of the Selma & Dallas County Centre for Commerce. He received a master's degree in personnel management from Troy State University and a bachelor's degree in business administration from The University of Alabama.

John Clyde Riggs serves as secretary for Region 6. He is the Executive Director of the Alabama-Tombigbee Regional Commission. He has been Director of ATRC since December, 1997. Prior to that time, Mr. Riggs held the position of Director of Development at ATRC for 15 years and Fiscal Officer for 7 years prior to that. He received a Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting from Auburn University.

Hanceville Career Center Hosts Cullman Area Service Provider Networking Day

The Hanceville Career Center, in partnership with Adult Education and Vocational Rehabilitation Services, hosted a Cullman Area Service Provider Networking Day.

All local service providers, local elected officials, and Wallace State representatives were invited to at-

tend. All were asked to bring literature regarding their services and all were given a time slot to discuss services they provide.

There were 30 in attendance and the meeting was extremely informative. Since the meeting, partners have developed an updated Community Ser-

vices Directory which was e-mailed to all in attendance. Updates will be added as necessary. A community service e-mail distribution list has been developed so that we can e-mail each other updates as they occur since the Directory is a work in progress.



The ABC's of GOWD, or What in the World Does THAT Mean?

Have you ever been in a meeting and not understood all the acronyms and abbreviations used? You are not alone!

The November spotlight in the 2011 Workforce Development Calendar are the ABC's of GOWD!

Here are a few for you to review and learn.

ATN—Alabama Technology Network

CCCTP- Community College and Career Training Program

CRC—Career Readiness Certificate

DOL—Department of Labor

IWTP—Incumbent Worker Training Program

NEG—National Emergency Grant

SWPC—State Workforce Planning Council

WDCA—Workforce Development Councils of Alabama

WIA—Workforce Investment Act

WSP—WorkKeys Solution Provider

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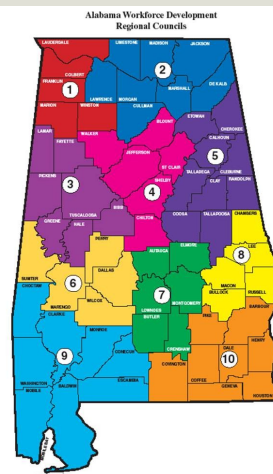
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Upcoming WDCA Meetings

- Region 1—March 8, TBA
- Region 2— May 18, TBA
- Region 3— March 10, Tuscaloosa
- Region 4— March 18, Cordova
- Region 5— March 8, TBA
- Region 6— March 24, Selma
- Region 7— February 24, Montgomery
- Region 8— March 23, Opelika
- Region 9— March 16, TBA
- Region 10— February 22, Dothan



August 28, 08

State Agencies Join Forces in Response to One of Alabama's Largest Disasters

The April 20, 2010 **Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill** dealt a monumental blow to the already struggling economy surrounding Alabama's Gulf Coast region.

In response to this devastation, several agencies across the state including community colleges, the Alabama Technology Network, the Alabama Career Center System and the Governor's Office of Workforce Development came together to support the communities trying to recover from this devastating explosion.

The Alabama Technology Network (ATN) provided training to more than 700 workers for the oil spill, responding in the span of only a few hours. The training in Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response provided by ATN was housed as

a community service at two community colleges.

The Alabama Career Center System collected and provided more than 5,000 resumes to contractors seeking employees to work in oil spill clean-up.

GOWD was awarded a Department of Labor National Emergency Grant up to \$5 million to assist local residents and dislocated workers in businesses and industries impacted by the oil spill.

The grant funds were used to create Business Support Centers. These centers, managed by ATN, provide a one-stop office in each location for business and employment needs, and are staffed by a number of agencies including the Small Business Development

Center, Alabama Career Center, mental health, Women's Business Center of South Alabama, and the U.S. Small Business Administration.

We must strive to continue providing much needed services through all available agencies until the area truly heals from this devastation.

Several individuals contributed to this article.

The full article will be available in the 2010 Chancellor's Report, to be released in March.